

REMARKS

I. Status of Claims

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8-11, 13-16, 19, 21, and 23-33 are pending. Claims 3, 6, 7, 12, 17, 18, 20, and 22 were cancelled in a previous amendment. Upon entry of this response, Claims 13-16 and 30 will be withdrawn; Claims 3, 6, 7, 12, 17-26, 29, 31, and 32 will be canceled; Claims 34-42 will be added as new claims; and Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8-11, 13-16, 27, 28, 30, and 33-42 will be pending. New matter has not been added. Entry and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

II. Examiner Interview

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the telephone conversation on August 20, 2008. The pending Office Action appears to address the proper claim set.

III. Election

The Office Action dated September 3, 2008, requires an election of one of the following groups of claims:

- Group I Claims 1-2, 4-5, 8-11, 27-28, and 33, drawn to a composite netting with a plurality of openings and panels attached thereto.
- Group II Claims 13-16, and 30, drawn to a composite netting comprised of netting segments with one or more breathable material panels.
- Group III Claims 19, 21, 23, 31-32, drawn to a process of wrapping bales with multiple segments of netting.

Group IV Claims 24, 26, and 29, drawn to a bale with multiple layers of material.

In response to the election requirement, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, **Group I, Claims 1-2, 4-5, 8-11, 27-28 and 33.** New Claims 34-42 should also be included in elected Group I.

Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application based upon the non-elected claims.

IV. Traversal of Restriction Requirement

As stated above, Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement.

The Examiner states that Group I has the special technical feature of “openings in the netting,” while Group II has the special technical feature of “segmented composite netting.”

The features cited by the Examiner, however, are not special technical features and are not sufficient to support the restriction of Groups I and II.

With regard to the asserted special technical feature of Group I, the nettings of both Group I and Group II include openings – the continuous nettings inherently include openings, and the composite nettings, which include the continuous nettings, further include openings because the breathable material panels are “partially attached” to the continuous nettings. Since Groups I and II each include “openings in the netting,” this feature cannot support restriction of these groups.

With regard to the asserted special technical feature of Group II, Group I includes “continuous netting” and “intervals along the length of the netting” (Claim 1), while Group II

includes "one or more netting segments of a continuous netting" (Claim 13). "Segmented composite netting" cannot be a special technical feature of Group II when Group I recites "intervals along the length of the netting." This feature does not support restriction.

Applicants respectfully assert there is a single general inventive concept with regard to at least Groups I and II, and request the withdrawal of the restriction requirement between at least Groups I and II.

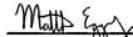
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the timely consideration of this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1874-4045.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

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By:


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